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## **New National Initiative “Nourishing Care” Launches to Bridge Food and Child Care Justice**

**Coalition of leading organizations launches four-year initiative to expand food and care access for Black, Indigenous, Latino, rural, and immigrant families**

(Philadelphia, PA) — Today, [Home Grown](#), in coalition with National Black Child Development Institute (NBCDI), National Indian Child Care Association (NICCA) and Colorado Statewide Parent Coalition (CSPC), announced the launch of ***Nourishing Care: Food Justice in Home-Based Child Care***, a new national initiative designed to ensure that **Black, Indigenous, Latine, rural, and immigrant children, families, and care providers are well-fed, healthy, and thriving**.

This program is funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, which is working toward a future where health is no longer a privilege but a right for everyone. For the past 20 years, RWJF has been a national leader in addressing childhood obesity and health inequities and has built on its approach to address the many social, economic, and physical factors that contribute to obesity, including the long-standing structural racism that exists across the systems that shape our lives.

Through this four-year effort, the Nourishing Care coalition will work to **reduce childhood obesity disparities, strengthen economic stability, and promote racial and health justice** by expanding access to nutritious, culturally relevant food and care resources for families and home-based child care providers.

“Every child deserves to grow up healthy and well-nourished in an environment of care and belonging,” said Natalie Renew, Executive Director of Home Grown. “By connecting food and care, we’re tackling two sources of inequity that have long kept families and care providers on the margins.”

## A Holistic Approach to Food and Care Justice

Nourishing Care will pursue policy and systems change by working hand in hand with **local communities, parents, and home-based child care (HBCC) providers**. Together, partners will:

- Dismantle discriminatory barriers to food, care and economic stability program benefits;
- Innovate new funding streams to expand access to healthy, culturally meaningful foods;
- Build advocacy capacity among families and providers; and
- Shift the public narrative to highlight the vital role of HBCC in child and community well-being.

A major focus of the initiative is to **increase equitable access to federal nutrition programs**—including **WIC, SNAP, FDPIR, GusNIP, and CACFP**—as well as **state tax credits** for parents and providers. By doing so, the coalition aims to reduce food insecurity, improve dietary intake, and promote long-term nutrition security for children.

Home-based care is the most prevalent form of child care in the U.S., serving **12.3 million children under age 13**—including **5.2 million children ages birth to 5**—through **over 5 million providers**. Yet, states currently recognize and resource only **91,000 of these providers**, leaving most excluded from child care subsidies and food programs.

Nourishing Care seeks to **change this reality by centering the “care triad” of child, parent, and care provider** in all program activities. Black, Indigenous, Latine, and immigrant parents and caregivers will lead the project’s design, implementation, and evaluation as members of a **Project Advisory Council**, pilot leads, and network champions.

For more information, visit the Nourishing Care landing page [here](#).

## About the Partners

National Black Child Development Institute (NBCDI), National Indian Child Care Association (NICCA) and Colorado Statewide Parent Coalition (CSPC) bring decades of experience in early childhood care, nutrition equity, and community-driven systems change. Together, they will collaborate with families, providers, and advocates nationwide to build a stronger, more equitable food and care infrastructure.

[Home Grown](#) is a national collaborative of funders, caregivers, and providers working together to advance an inclusive child care system where home-based child care is visible, valued, and well-resourced.

[Colorado Statewide Parent Coalition \(CSPC\)](#) is an effective service and advocacy organization offering programs and referrals to support Latine and immigrant parents, children, and home-based child care providers throughout Colorado. CSPC provides language access services to a range of programs including food banks and food programs. Recent advocacy success includes pioneering legislation to support financial and food security in Colorado.

The [National Indian Child Care Association \(NICCA\)](#) is a national grassroots alliance representing Tribally governed and operated child care programs, including 264 Tribal Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) grantees serving more than 500 Tribal Nations. NICCA advocates for and provides training, technical assistance, and community-building to strengthen Tribal early childhood systems. Our work centers Tribal sovereignty, culturally grounded care, and the holistic well-being of Native children and families.

[The National Black Child Development Institute \(NBCDI\)](#) serves as the preeminent voice for Black children and families. Operating as a think-and-do tank nationally and locally, we think imaginatively and collaboratively to actively engage critical perspectives that amplify the knowledge, experiences, and expertise of Black communities. We then do the work required to improve the quality of life for Black children from birth to age 8 by mobilizing movements to drive true systems change. NBCDI's work addresses how structural anti-Black racism—such as redlining, community disinvestment, predatory marketing of junk food, and the overabundance of convenience stores—drives inequitable access to healthy foods and highlights the lack of action gaps in policy responses.